

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Final Office Action dated December 29, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1, 5, and 6 are hereby amended. Accordingly, claims 1–7 are pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Related Art (hereinafter "ARA") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,661,401 to Sekine (hereinafter "Sekine"); claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over ARA in view of Sekine and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,577,293 to Kwon (hereinafter "Kwon"); claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over ARA in view of Sekine and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,714,953 to Mitani et al. (hereinafter "Mitani"); claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over ARA in view of Sekine and further in view of Kwon; claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over ARA, Sekine, and Kwon and further in view of Mitani; and claims 4 and 7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Applicant notes the indication that claims 4 and 7 contain allowable subject matter.

In the Office Action, claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over ARA in view of Sekine. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of independent claim 1 and requests reconsideration. Independent claim 1 is allowable in that it recites "a plurality of digital to analog converters for converting digital image signals output from the timing controller to analog image signals based on a number of bits corresponding to a gray level displayed and for receiving the selection signal ... wherein the selection signal selects an appropriate converter of the plurality of digital to analog converters to be driven according to the number of bits corresponding to the gray level." Nothing in ARA and Sekine, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. In contrast, Sekine teaches that "[f]or each of the liquid crystal displays 50 for R (red), G (green) and B

(blue), the video signal generating block 21 comprises ... a DAC circuit 16 for converting the digital signal into an analog signal.” (Column 8, lines 18–30). Applicant respectfully asserts that the above feature of independent claim 1, “a plurality of digital to analog converters for converting digital image signals output from the timing controller to analog image signals based on a number of bits corresponding to a gray level displayed and for receiving the selection signal ... wherein the selection signal selects an appropriate converter of the plurality of digital to analog converters to be driven according to the number of bits corresponding to the gray level,” is patentably distinct from the teaching of Sekine. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is allowable over any combination of ARA and Sekine.

In the Office Action, claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over ARA in view of Sekine and further in view of Kwon. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and requests reconsideration. Claim 2, which depends from independent claim 1, is allowable because Kwon fails to cure the deficiency of ARA and Sekine to teach or suggest “a plurality of digital to analog converters for converting digital image signals output from the timing controller to analog image signals based on a number of bits corresponding to a gray level displayed and for receiving the selection signal ... wherein the selection signal selects an appropriate converter of the plurality of digital to analog converters to be driven according to the number of bits corresponding to the gray level.” Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 2, as it depends from independent claim 1, is allowable over any combination of ARA, Sekine, and Kwon.

In the Office Action, claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over ARA in view of Sekine and further in view of Mitani. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and requests reconsideration. Claim 3, which depends from independent claim 1, is allowable because Kwon fails to cure the deficiency of ARA and Sekine to teach or suggest “a plurality of digital to analog converters for converting digital image signals output from the timing controller to analog image signals based on a number of bits corresponding to a gray level displayed and for receiving the selection signal ... wherein the selection signal selects an appropriate converter of the plurality of digital to analog converters to be driven according to the number of bits corresponding to the gray level.” Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits

that claim 3, as it depends from independent claim 1, is allowable over any combination of ARA, Sekine, Kwon, and Mitani.

In the Office Action, claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over ARA in view of Sekine and further in view of Kwon. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of independent claim 5 and requests reconsideration. Independent claim 5 is allowable in that it recites “a plurality of digital to analog converters for converting digital image signals output from the level shifter to analog image signals based on a number of bits corresponding to a gray level displayed and for receiving the selection signal.” Nothing in ARA, Sekine, and Kwon, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, for the same or similar reasons as those regarding claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 5 is allowable over any combination of ARA, Sekine, and Kwon.

In the Office Action, claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over ARA, Sekine, and Kwon and further in view of Mitani. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and requests reconsideration. Claim 6, which depends from independent claim 5, is allowable because Mitani fails to cure the deficiency of ARA, Sekine, and Kwon to teach or suggest “a plurality of digital to analog converters for converting digital image signals output from the level shifter to analog image signals based on a number of bits corresponding to a gray level displayed and for receiving the selection signal.” Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 6, as it depends from independent claim 5, is allowable over any combination of ARA, Sekine, Kwon, and Mitani.

Applicant believes the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

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If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: March 29, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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